



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

March 6, 2000

DOYLE KICKS OFF SPRING CONCERT SERIES WITH IRISH PROCLAMATION

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle today kicked off the County's Music In Our Schools Spring Series at the County Office Building with a 'wee bit' of Irish music and dance in anticipation of the Saint Patrick's Day Parade scheduled this year for Saturday March 11, 2000.

The Drumcliffe School of Irish Dance entertained with dancers from Pittsford elementary schools, and Churchville, Spencerport, and Greece high schools. The Rush-Henrietta Roth Middle School provided choral entertainment with more than 40 students from the 8th grade chorus, directed by Sue Controneo.

"Music and dance are wonderful ways to express the uniqueness of ethnic history and a vibrant way to share the wonders of diversity in the fabric of our American culture," said Doyle. "Today's concert is a great prelude to Saturday's Saint Patrick's Day Parade."

Highlighting the noontime event, County Executive Doyle and County Legislature President Dennis Pelletier read a proclamation setting March 10 through March 19 as Irish Heritage week. Tom Fitzpatrick, Parade 2000 Chairperson, accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Parade Committee and the Irish Community.

"Now in its 23rd consecutive year, the annual Rochester Saint Patrick's Day Parade provides a spectacular community wide event for everyone and we hope to see you all downtown at noon on Saturday," said Fitzpatrick.

Proclamations were also presented honoring Patricia Kelly Crowley, Joe Moran, and Senator James Allesi as Grand Marshal, Irish-American Business Leader of the Year, and Community Leader of the Year, respectively.

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"These proclamations serve to inform the entire community about very special and deserving people," said Pelletier. "These Irish Americans recognized today, have contributed to the quality of our community in many meaningful ways."

Featured dancers from the Drumcliffe School of Irish Dance included: Fiona Whalen, Courtney Husson, Colleen Spitz, Shannon Diamond, Heidi Gerla, Kacie Schrader. Mrs. Allison Whalen coordinated the dancers appearance and performance.

Two other featured guests at the concert, costumed as Saint Patrick and the famed mythical Irish Leprechaun, were Regis Mooney and John Patrick Sullivan, respectively. Look for them with other dignitaries in this Saturdays Parade.

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*For further information, call:
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See us on the web at www.co.monroe.ny.us*

NOTE:

The Saint Patrick's Parade in Rochester always begins at noon on the Saturday before March 17th. This year the date falls on Saturday, March 11, 2000 and Parade related events can be found outlined in the Celtic Times, published by the Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee. You can phone the Parade Chairman at 254-49080 or phone the Parade Hotline and Voice Mail at 2346167.